

# LINWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Chairperson  
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April 7, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

I am Superintendent from the Linwood Public Schools, Linwood, New Jersey, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and educational consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Linwood has had interest in such connections over the past several years but due to the high monthly costs our district has not been able to activate our interest. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Ralph A. Schiavo, Jr.  
Superintendent of Schools

RAS/sv

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LINWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BELHAVEN AVENUE  
LINWOOD, N.J. 08221



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THE HONORABLE REED HUNDT, CHAIRMAN  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
1919 M. STREET, NW, ROOM 844  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20554



ROOM 844  
APR 10 1997

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CC 96-45

UNIT 10

HAMILTON COUNTY  
COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT NO. 10

P.O. Box 369  
109 North Washington  
McLeansboro, Illinois 62859  
(618) 643-2328

April 7, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing in regard to the Federal-State Joint Board's recommended proposal for granting a telecommunications discount rate (e-rate) for schools and libraries. It is my understanding the Federal Communications Commission will vote on this proposal within the next four or five weeks. As an administrator in a rural and financially disadvantaged area, I urge you to support the Joint Board's recommendation which may be our best hope of providing internet connectivity to our children.

Hamilton County Unit 10 is located in Southern Illinois. It is a county-wide district serving a rural area of 350 square miles. We service 1,500 students Pre-K through Grade 12. Our closest access to a major metropolitan area (St. Louis) is a two-hour journey. Our youngsters are thereby often denied the cultural learning activities enjoyed by those living closer to urban centers.

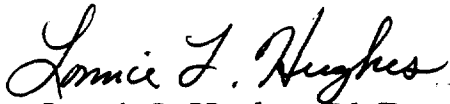
Internet access and other telecommunication proposals such as distance learning represent our best hope of maintaining a link to the world of information otherwise unavailable to us. Yet, despite our great need, access to these opportunities is limited. We have been told because of problems associated with latta lines, it would cost our district between \$1,500 and \$1,900 per month to attain direct line internet access. Indeed, this represents a substantial road block on the information super highway. Our limited budget has enabled us to embark upon a technology plan which is bringing hardware and software to our district. Computers are available in each of our seven attendance centers. But if it will cost us \$1,500 to \$1,900 per month just to attain internet connectivity, we will flounder. With the "e-rate", we could provide internet connectivity to every classroom in the district. What a wonderful day that would be for the children of Unit 10.

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
April 7, 1997  
Page 2

Please give us an opportunity to make this dream a reality by supporting the Joint Board's proposal, one that will provide \$2.25 billion to the nation's classrooms where students will most directly benefit from it. I have no desire to be confrontational with any telecommunication carrier. However, our district and thousands of others across the country, need these 20-90 percent rate discounts. We are public entities; we seek no profit other than the inherent rewards in better preparing youngsters for the work force of the twenty-first century.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter and your support of the Joint Board's discount plan for public schools.

Sincerely,

  
Lonnie L. Hughes, Ed. D.,  
Superintendent

LLH/dlr

cc: Representative Glenn Poshard



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April 8, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

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RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am the Executive Director of the Capital Area Intermediate Unit in central Pennsylvania, and the President-Elect of the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units. I thank you for your dedication and interest in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

A positive Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

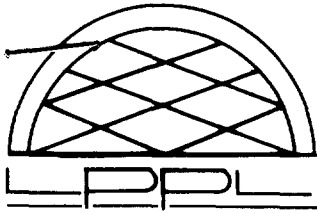
I assure you the regional educational service agencies in Pennsylvania are eager to assist schools and libraries to build consortiums to promote the efficient utilization of resources and create strong competition among the interested service providers.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Edward T. Frye  
Executive Director



## LA GRANGE PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

April 7, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt - Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street NW - Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

RE: CC Docket 96-45 - Universal Service to Libraries and Schools

On behalf of the La Grange Park Public Library, I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for the telecommunications and critical, non-telecommunications services necessary to assure that all of our public libraries and schools are connected to the Internet and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn, and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of ensuring that libraries and schools would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools and libraries that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. By allowing telecommunications companies and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our libraries and schools -- and -- ultimately for us all. as a better educated community benefits everyone. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Dixie M. Conkis  
Executive Director

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# Spring Hill

*Unified School District #230*



Board of Education Office  
101 E. South Street, Spring Hill, KS 66083  
phone: 913/592-7205 fax: 913/592-7270  
e-mail address: ksshdo@unicom.net

*Dr. Barton L. Goering, Superintendent*  
*Dr. Dan Lumley, Assistant Superintendent*  
*Myrna Morrison, Business Manager/Treasurer*  
*Karen Meireis, Clerk of the Board*

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April 4, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
191 M. Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt,

I am a school board member for Spring Hill Unified School District No. 230 in Spring Hill, Kansas. I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our district has been using grant funds to equip classrooms and labs with up-to-date computer equipment. Now we need help to allow our students to learn and communicate globally.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Metcalf".

Bob Metcalf  
Board Member

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